

countries to meet the criteria for NATO membership and how the Administration believes the functioning of NATO would be altered if they were to become a member.

Just how far are we willing to extend the NATO alliance? I am not questioning whether Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic deserve to become alliance members. All three have made remarkable gains since the end of the Cold War. But in the future, other of these 25 nations will meet the criteria to join NATO and may be no less deserving of membership. Now is the time for the Senate to begin thinking about the long-term indications of a decision to open NATO's doors to the East.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 22, 1998, to conduct a hearing on the nomination of Donna Tanoue, of Hawaii, to be a member and chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Wednesday, April 22, 1998, at 10 a.m. for a hearing on the nominations of G. Edward DeSeve to be Deputy Director for Management of the Office of Management and Budget, and Deidre Lee to be Administrator of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy for the Office of Management and Budget.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 22, 1998 at 10:30 a.m. in room 226 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building to hold a hearing on the nomination of James K. Robinson to be assistant attorney general for the criminal division.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce be authorized to meet for a joint hearing on Individuals with Disabilities Education Act during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 22, 1998, at 10:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs would

like to request unanimous consent to hold a markup on the nomination of Togo D. West, Jr., to be Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. The markup will take place in S216, of the Capitol Building, after the first scheduled vote in the Senate after 3 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22, 1998.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Committee on Aging be permitted to meet on April 22, 1998 at 1 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Communications of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, April 22, 1998, at 9:30 am on section 706 and bandwidth issues.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURING

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Manufacturing Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Wednesday, April 22, 1998, at 2:30 pm on virtual manufacturing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, the Finance Committee Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy requests unanimous consent to conduct a hearing on Wednesday, April 22, 1998, beginning at 10 a.m. in room 215 Dirksen.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, TERRORISM, AND GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information, of the Senate Judiciary Committee, and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to hold a joint hearing during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 22, 1998 at 2:30 p.m. in room 226, Senate Dirksen Office Building, on: "Chemical and Biological Weapons Threats to America: Are We Prepared?"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN RECOGNITION OF GILDA'S CLUB, METRO DETROIT

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to the April 30, 1998 Grand Opening of the new, and permanent, home of

Gilda's Club, Metro Detroit in Royal Oak, Michigan. Gilda's Club is a support community for men, women and children who are living with cancer as well as their families and friends.

Gilda's Club is named for the late comedienne Gilda Radner, a Detroit native who died at the age of 42 after a courageous fight against cancer. Gilda first became known for her portrayals of irreverent characters on "Saturday Night Live." She also appeared on Broadway and in movies. Shortly before she died, Gilda wrote "It's Always Something," a book about her experience living with cancer. Gilda's Club was born from Gilda Radner's wish for all people with cancer to have as strong a support group as she had.

Gilda's Club aims to provide a friendly, residential haven for cancer patients and their friends and families. In this home-like setting, people living with or affected by cancer can share their experiences, participate in workshops and lectures, and attend social events. Gilda's Club is designed to enhance medical treatment with the emotional and social support which can be so crucial for those living with the disease.

Thousands of people from communities throughout Michigan pulled together to make Gilda's Club's permanent home a reality. Many organizations and businesses have hosted fundraising events and have committed their own money to the cause. A comedy event is held once a year to raise funds for Gilda's Club, and thousands of people walk in the Annual 5K Gilda's Club Family Walk and Block Party. In 1997, this event involved more than three thousand walkers and raised more than \$175,000.

Mr. President, people living with cancer have long been able to rely on gifted and dedicated doctors to help them fight the disease which affects their bodies. Gilda's Club, Metro Detroit offers a critical supplement—emotional uplift—to the care cancer patients receive from their physicians. By promoting hope and healing, Gilda's Club will have an impact on thousands of people. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the efforts of the many people who have made Gilda's Club, Metro Detroit possible, and in extending our prayers and high hopes to everyone who walks through its doors. •

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

• Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, April 21, 1998, the federal debt stood at \$5,518,978,332,463.05 (Five trillion, five hundred eighteen billion, nine hundred seventy-eight million, three hundred thirty-two thousand, four hundred sixty-three dollars and five cents).

One year ago, April 21, 1997, the federal debt stood at \$5,352,734,000,000 (Five trillion, three hundred fifty-two billion, seven hundred thirty-four million).

Five years ago, April 21, 1993, the federal debt stood at \$4,257,526,000,000

(Four trillion, two hundred fifty-seven billion, five hundred twenty-six million).

Ten years ago, April 21, 1988, the federal debt stood at \$2,499,121,000,000 (Two trillion, four hundred ninety-nine billion, one hundred twenty-one million).

Fifteen years ago, April 21, 1983, the federal debt stood at \$1,243,863,000,000 (One trillion, two hundred forty-three billion, eight hundred sixty-three million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$4 trillion—\$4,275,115,332,463.05 (Four trillion, two hundred seventy-five billion, one hundred fifteen million, three hundred thirty-two thousand, four hundred sixty-three dollars and five cents) during the past 15 years.●

JUSTICE FOR THE PEOPLE OF CAMBODIA

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, last week, the mastermind of one of this century's most horrific crimes against humanity died apparently peacefully in his sleep. Pol Pot, founder and leader of the Khmer Rouge, architect of the grisly genocide which claimed at least one million Cambodian lives between 1975 and 1979, died at the age of 73. While some may see Pol Pot's death as final closure on one of the most shockingly brutal and despotic reigns in history, his death should not absolve the international community from seeking justice for the people of Cambodia.

The scars from Pol Pot's four-year reign of terror remain in Cambodia, and on the face of humanity. History will judge us. Did they do enough? Did they do what they could? Did they even care? If those assessments were written today, the community of nations would be found wanting. The fact that Pol Pot lived to his dying day having never been punished for his crimes is the best evidence of that.

When Pol Pot and his Khmer Rouge captured the Cambodian capitol of Phnom Penh in April 1975, he and his lieutenants began a barbaric campaign to exterminate intellectuals, foreigners, bureaucrats, merchants, and countless others who did not fit Pol Pot's vision of a "pure" Cambodia. Many thousands more were forced into slave labor camps, eventually dying from starvation, torture, and disease. I have met some of the survivors of that nightmare who escaped to Thailand and ultimately resettled in the United States, including in Vermont. They are a living tribute to the invincibility of the human spirit.

Four years later in 1979 Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge were forced from power, but they left behind a ghastly swath of death and carnage that counted at least one million Cambodians dead and a country that to this day is trying to cope with the ghosts of that era. Virtually every Cambodian now alive knows or is related to someone who perished under the Khmer Rouge.

Although Pol Pot was the architect of the killing fields of Cambodia, those

in his inner circle were responsible for carrying out his commands. Many of Pol Pot's chief lieutenants still roam the Cambodian countryside, reportedly along the Thai border. Men like Khieu Samphan, former President of Kampuchea; Nuon Chea, former second in command and someone described as Pol Pot's "alter ego;" and Ta Mok, a Khmer Rouge leader whose portfolio included killing Cambodians who had worked for the old Lon Nol government. Ta Mok was nicknamed "the Butcher."

The wanton killing did not end decades ago. In 1996 British mine clearer Christopher Howes and his Cambodian interpreter, Houn Hourth, were abducted by Khmer Rouge soldiers and later led to a field and shot in the back. According to recent reports of interviews with Khmer Rouge officials, aides close to Pol Pot ordered the killing. Mr. Howes posed no threat to Pol Pot or the Khmer Rouge. He was in Cambodia working to make the country safer for the Cambodian people by helping remove one-by-one the millions of landmines sown in the fields. Today, Cambodia is infested with mines which continue to maim and kill the innocent.

I am encouraged that the Administration appears ready to seek some formal mechanism to bring to justice key members of Pol Pot's inner circle. A number of possible approaches have been suggested, including a war crimes tribunal for Cambodia like the existing tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, or an international penal tribunal that includes Cambodian participation. These ideas and others merit further discussion as we examine appropriate ways to seek justice for the Cambodian people.

The United Nations has also named a three-person team to investigate the remaining Khmer Rouge leaders. This too, is an encouraging sign.

Whatever it takes, we must not let the fact that Pol Pot eluded justice diminish our resolve to apprehend and punish the members of his inner circle who are also guilty of crimes against humanity. History will judge us harshly if we turn our backs now.

I ask unanimous consent that two editorials be printed in the RECORD.

The editorials follow:

[From The New York Times, April 17, 1998]

POL POT ESCAPES JUSTICE

Pol Pot, elusive to the end, died just as the world finally seemed to be serious about bringing him to justice. No punishment, however, could have fit the evil he committed. From 1975 to 1979, Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge wiped out a large fraction of Cambodia's people, and left the rest with a country submerged in violence and pain.

The Khmer Rouge regime was surely the most bizarre in modern history, its philosophy made up of one part Maoism and three parts paranoia. It emptied the cities and marched Cambodians to the countryside to starve on state farms. Having an education, or even wearing glasses, could get one killed as a class enemy. Thousands of Khmer Rouge's own cadres were forced to confess to spying and tortured to death. There is probably no adult in Cambodia today unscarred

by the loss of a close relative. Political life, too, is still poisoned. The nation's spectacular misrule stems in part from the scarcity of educated people and the political habits learned in four years of terror.

The Vietnamese invasion that ousted the Khmer Rouge in 1979 forced Pol Pot and his men into the jungle, where they continue to wage a guerrilla war to this day. Many Khmer Rouge troops have received amnesty and become wealthy and influential members of Hun Sen's Government, including Mr. Hun Sen himself. Pol Pot's death will rob investigators of the chance to try him and to hear about the crimes of Khmer Rouge leaders who are still in positions of power.

Pol Pot, who became a Communist while on a scholarship in Paris in the early 1950's, never apologized. In an interview last October, the only one he had granted since 1978, he said that whatever he had done he did for his country. He disputed that millions had died but acknowledged that hundreds of thousands had. Those killings were necessary, he said, because the Vietnamese wanted to assassinate him and swallow up Cambodia. His conscience was clear.

This was said by an old man so weakened by malaria and stroke that he could barely walk. He always had a gentle manner and soft voice, and in the interview smiled constantly. He did not seem a man who could have presided over the deaths of more than a million people. Three months before the interview, however, the Khmer Rouge put him on trial, not for the crimes of his regime but for his murder of a political rival and the man's family. The camera showed the Khmer Rouge troops watching the trial chanting robotically, "Crush, crush, crush." He, of course, had taught them that. The soft-spoken old man of the interview was a mirage. His disciples showed who Pol Pot really was.

[From The Washington Post, April 17, 1998]

AFTER POL POT

The reported death of Pol Pot in the Cambodian jungle means that one of this century's most egregious mass murderers will not stand trial or be held accountable for his crimes. But it should not mean that Pol Pot's accomplices now will be let off the hook, and it does not mean that other nations with an interest in Cambodia's future should ease their pressure for a restoration of democracy there.

Between 1975 and 1979 more than 1 million and probably closer to 2 million Cambodians were executed or died from the effects of torture, deliberate starvation and brutal overwork. Pol Pot was the nation's communist leader at the time; he presided over the deaths of one-fifth of his population. But he was not alone. According to painstaking documentation assembled by the Cambodia Genocide Project at Yale University (partially funded by the State Department), a standing committee, on March 30, 1976, formally established an integrated national network of extermination centers. These were responsible for an estimated 1 million deaths of people who are now buried in 20,000 mass graves. Eight to 10 members of that committee are still alive and at large.

The tendency on the part of the international community will be to abandon efforts to bring to trial those guilty of crimes against humanity. With Pol Pot gone, attention will fade; some believe his colleagues killed him for just that reason. Moreover, some of Pol Pot's onetime comrades are in league with Cambodia's current leader, Hun Sen. It would make diplomats' jobs easier to let them be. It would also be an affront to justice and to Cambodia's many victims.

The same international fatigue is emerging with respect to Hun Sen, who seized